



# Wells International School On Nut Newsletter

## ON NUT CAMPUS

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## On Nut Expansions Underway

*Wells International School's On Nut campus is undergoing its largest changes since opening in 1996. Construction is currently underway on a third floor addition—an expansion that will provide additional classrooms and facilities—and the Wells name is gaining more positive exposure around Bangkok as it becomes recognized as one of the most reliable and reasonable options for international education in Thailand.*

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## On Nut Expansions Underway *(continued from page 1)*

### Expansion at a Glance...

- 10 new classrooms
- Second science lab
- Greenhouse equipped with a hydroponics system
- 3 additional computer labs with approximately 80 computers
- Second dining area with a seating capacity of 125
- New, expanded dance studio
- New choir and music room with private practice rooms
- Fitness center with weight room
- Second basketball court
- New volleyball court
- 2 new badminton courts

Set for a July, 2010 completion date, the third floor addition boasts a substantial number of improvements and innovations, all intended to better provide a quality education for your children. Most apparent among these is the addition of ten classrooms, yet the other features will truly provide unique learning opportunities for both Wells instructors and students.

In a continual effort to remain relevant and practical in its approach to instruction, Wells will establish not only an additional science laboratory, but also a greenhouse with a fully functional hydroponics system—a method allowing the growth of plants without the use of soil. Even more significant, Wells will be the first international school in Bangkok to install such a system and will even use the freshly grown vegetables to supplement the school lunches.

Further emphasizing this contemporary approach, three additional computer labs will supplement the existing four, bringing the total number of computers available for student use to approximately 250. The new labs will be separated by removable partitions, thereby allowing them to be combined into a single massive media room for workshops, presentations and professional development sessions for instructors. This upgrade benefits not only ICT, but every department, as each will have easier access to the EBSCOHost database and other online resources for research and projects.

Not to be overlooked, areas such as sports and the arts will also see the benefits of the expansion. A fully furnished dance studio and music room will be attached to the existing auditorium, creating one large performing arts complex in which students will have access to private practice rooms and modern equipment. Similarly, the existing sports facilities will be expanded to include a



fitness center adjoining the gym, complete with weight training and locker rooms. The rear quad field will be expanded to include a second full-size basketball court that can be resurfaced as required for volleyball and badminton, allowing the campus to host further tournaments.

As exciting as this expansion may be, Wells is capitalizing on other opportunities as it investigates the possibility of purchasing land adjacent to the school and constructing additional facilities. Looking to the future, we envision Wells International School serving as a hub of education in Bangkok for both educators and students, a goal that is well on its way to being accomplished. Thank you for your continued support in this process and for being a part of these exciting changes.

# Let's Celebrate Songkran!

On Thursday, April 8th, the Wells - On Nut Thai Department have planned a Thai cultural day; as it is scheduled close to Songkran, students will also have the opportunity to enjoy water-related games and activities.

Wells strongly promotes Thai cultural awareness, as we feel it is important for both teachers and students to appreciate the beliefs and customs of the Thai people. As students become conscious of different cultures and beliefs, their minds are opened to other traditions, helping them to better understand their own heritages and to grow as individuals.



Throughout the day students will take part in activities and performances drawn from Thailand's rich cultural legacy. Included in the festivities will be Thai dances, drama and martial arts. Additionally, a variety of Thai delicacies will be available during the morning break and lunch period. Parents are invited to participate in the events as well. Make sure you're dressed in your favorite Songkran attire and be ready to get wet!

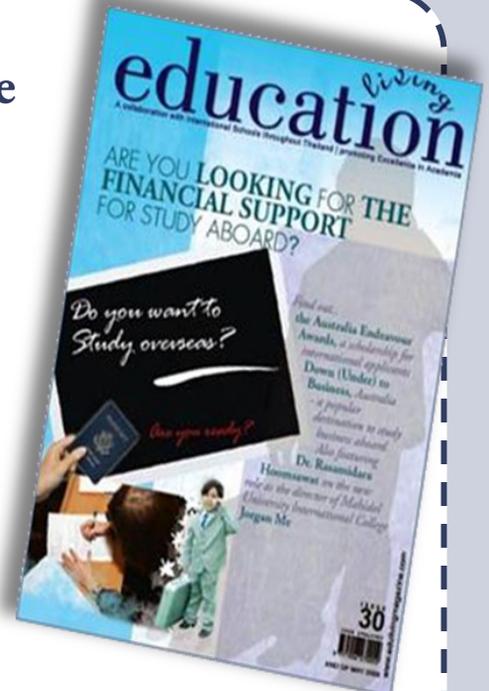
Students will be dismissed at 1:15. After-school classes are scheduled for 1:30 to 2:30. Any classes missed from March 15th to 19th will be made up at that time as well.

## On Nut Campus to be Featured in Magazine

On Thursday, March 4th, staff members from the publication *Education Living* visited the teachers and students at Wells - On Nut. After interviewing Headmaster Ray de la Peña, the interviewer and photographer toured the campus, experiencing the Wells community firsthand. Upon the conclusion of the tour, the interviewer remarked that our students were among the friendliest she had ever encountered—a comment that reinforced our desire to maintain not only a school, but an extended family.

*Education Living* is the first and only magazine in Thailand dedicated to international education. The article will be featured in the April issue; copies will be available in the office and Parents' Lounge, or you can alternately visit the *Education Living* website and subscribe to their publication:

[www.edulivingmagazine.com](http://www.edulivingmagazine.com)



# Wells Counseling Department

We are extremely excited to announce the development of our new Career Center, located in the Student Lounge area, adjoining the registrar office. The purpose is to provide a library of career information to help students identify their goals and interests, take advantage of exciting opportunities in the community and prepare for the transition from university to the “real world.”

Students interested in hands-on learning experiences in different jobs are encouraged to join our job shadow program, in which students have the opportunity to meet, interact with and learn from individuals actually working in fields. Jenny (Grade 11), our curious prospective doctor, is currently job shadowing at the Village Education Center, where she volunteers several hours of her time each week. All 11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to visit the center and explore the learning opportunities available to them.



For further information or any assistance from the counseling department, contact us at:

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## Anti-Bullying Week

Wells On Nut just completed a campaign to heighten awareness of bullying and address the related issues experienced by learners and educators. Grade 11 students took the initiative and presented an exceptional program during the March 22nd to 24th morning assemblies; their aim was to help raise bullying awareness through role-plays, speeches, statistics and testimonies. Their presentations also contained practical skills for effectively combating bullying behavior.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Wells International School. Counseling, corrective discipline, and/or referral to law enforcement will be used to influence the behavior of bullies and lessen their impact on other students. This includes appropriate intervention, restoration of a positive climate and support for victims and others impacted by the violation. Contracts were sent home for parents' acknowledgment and signature.

The following disciplinary actions are taken in cases of bullying:



**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Name reported to Dean of Discipline and counselor. Sign the bully behavior log.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** Name reported to Dean of Discipline and counselor. Sign the bully behavior log and loss of privilege or free time with school services for a minimum of 10 days. Parents may be contacted depending on severity.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** Name reported to Dean of Discipline and counselor. Sign the bully behavior log and minimum of 5 days after school detention. Parents are contacted.

**4<sup>th</sup> Offense:** Name reported to Discipline and Counselor. Sign the bully behavior log and 5-10 days in-school suspension/out-of-school suspension. Parents are contacted.

**5<sup>th</sup> Offense:** Name reported to Dean of Discipline and counselor. Sign the bully behavior log,; referral for behavior and bully intervention at The Village Learning Centre. Parents are contacted.

# Community Outreach



The Student Support Services Department at Wells seeks to provide students with the opportunity to give back to the community. One example of this occurred at the end of the previous semester:

On December 16th, just before students enjoyed the first days of their holidays, a troop of students marched out to get down and dirty at the Rajanukul Institute. Our mission was pure and simple: to make paper-mâché chairs for challenged children who have some form of mental disability.

We were greeted by Khun Pik, director of the volunteer center and our paper-mâché guru. She briefed us about the institute and our agenda for the day and thanked us for providing some much-needed support and labor. We learned about paper-mâché and why it was being used at the institute rather than the standard wooden chairs.

Khun Pik explained that “paper-mâché is made from used papers. The purpose is to value used paper and also follow the King’s philosophy of “sufficiency economics” in order to promote social conscience and encourage all Thai people to follow a simple way of life. Rajanukul Institute and the Rajanukul Foundation realize that they are safe and both easy and fun to make. Each chair is

measured according to the size of each student and designed with a locking structure to prevent the child or adult from sliding down. They are attractive, and designs can be changed with ease.”

Students were inspired and quickly formed their groups and got to work in the kitchen, garden, front entrance of the center or wherever they got comfortable.

Each group was then given one chair with the home-made glue and recycled paper. They enthusiastically spent the remainder of the day drowned in glue and newspaper.

## How to Make a Paper-Mâché Chair

**STEP 1:** Study and analyze the physical and intellectual needs of the child by working together with his/her physical therapist, occupational therapist and parents.

**STEP 2:** Design the appropriate structure of the chair to meet the needs of that child.

**STEP 3:** Cut cardboard to the required size, forming the basic structure of the chair, and tear old newspaper into small pieces.

**STEP 4:** Create home-made glue by heating a mixture of sticky rice flour, a few teaspoons of alum powder and water.

**STEP 5:** The messy fun begins: Pieces of newspaper are glued onto the cardboard, layer by layer. (It could add up to 50 to 100 layers). After each layer the chair left to dry.

**STEP 6:** Small colored strips of paper are then used to create more layers until the chair is strong and firm for the child to sit. The chair is tested by parents, physical and occupational therapist.

**STEP 7:** Pictures of alphabet, cartoon, animal, colored shapes and sizes are cut and pasted according to the design initially decided upon.

**STEP 8:** For a beautiful shine, lacquer is sprayed at the end.



# News from the Wells Parent Association



## What makes a great school?

Great teachers and great parents! A great school also requires a great parent organization that works hand-in-hand with the teachers. Teachers and parents at Wells International School are together making an effort to build a strong parent association in order to provide high-quality education for your children.

The WPA cooperates with the school to ensure your children's success in and outside the classroom. It additionally provides a voice for your children in discussing learning results, safety, health & sports and culture & creativity.

Through this process you can inform the school what kind of education you want for your child and help the WPA in working with the school to realize high-quality standards of education.

## You can help PTA by getting involved!

Become a member or volunteer for specific activities! More involvement is always welcome!

**Ms. Gona:** gona@wells-school.com

**Ms. Ann:** ann@wells-school.com

Tel. 02-730-3366

**Next WPA meeting:** April 19, 2010. 08:00 am

**Agenda:** Sports, Athletics and Physical Education classes

Nationality	Parent Representative
<b>Canadian</b>	Mr. Dave
<b>Chinese</b>	Ms. Li Hua
<b>European</b>	Mr. Artur
<b>Indian</b>	Ms. Sini Giri / Ms. Niddhi
<b>Korean</b>	Ms. Young Mi / Ms. Eun Hee
<b>Singaporean</b>	Ms. Christina
<b>Taiwanese</b>	Ms. Lun Chih
<b>Thai</b>	Mr. Pasong / Ms. Prapatporn
<b>Japanese</b>	Ms. Izumi / Ms. Naoyo

	Parent Representative
<b>Events</b>	Ms. Supaporn / Ms. Wipha
<b>General Affairs</b>	Ms. Thiyaporn / Ms. Warunee
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ms. Saowapa

# Wells Friends & Family:



## A Special Offer for Parents at our On Nut campus

In order to thank parents for their continued support of Wells and its staff, we would like to extend the following offer:

We will deduct 5,000 baht from your child's tuition fee for each student referred to and accepted by one of the campuses in the Wells system. There is no limit to the number of students you can refer or the amount that can be deducted from the tuition cost! Simply have the individuals you refer specify you by name, and the deduction will appear on your next bill.

Thank you again for your support and for being a part of the Wells family!



## Wells Calendar

APRIL 2010						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2010						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**1-10** Senior Trip to Hawaii

**6** Chakri Memorial Day (*Normal Classes*)

**8** Songkran Celebration

**9** Substitution for Chakri Day (*No Classes*)

**12-16** Songkran Holiday (*No Classes*)

**19** Classes Resume

**5** Coronation Day (*Normal Classes*)

**3-6** SAT 10 Testing

**6** Wells Spring Concert

**7** Substitution for Coronation Day (*No Classes*)

**28** Visakha Bucha Day (*No Classes*)